

## Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-07 MC-02 EB-07 TRSE-00

OMB-01 IGA-02 /066 W

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R 211212Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1059

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

CSA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

S E C R E T BANGKOK 20650

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MMOL MILI PFOR TH US

SUBJ: US RESIDUAL ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND--AIT

REF: A) STATE 177353; B) BANGKOK 17152; C) STATE 142282

1. WE ARE SUBMITTING SEPTTEL THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT ON AIT ON WHICH WE HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH THE RTG. CONCURRENTLY WE HAVE RECEIVED STATE 177353 WITH WHAT ARE DESCRIBED AS AMENDMENTS TO AN EARLIER DRAFT BUT WHICH AMOUNT TO VERY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES. I SHOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT IT IS VERY UNSATISFACTORY TO BE NEGOTIATING ONE DOCUMENT WITH THE THAI AND AFTER LONG DELAYS TO HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT DOCUMENTS PREPARED IN WASHINGTON.

2. THE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE PROPOSED IN STATE 177353 IS PARA 2 WHICH PRESCRIBES IN GREAT DETAIL THE DECISIONS WHICH WE WILL REQUIRE THE THAI TO MAKE WITHIN A SPECIFIED TIME FRAME WITH REGARD TO PURCHASE OF THE AIT. I BELIEVE THESE DETAILS SIGNIFICANTLY ALTER OUR PREVIOUS POSITION AND WILL MOVE US A GIANT STEP AWAY

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FROM AGREEMENT. AS REPORTED IN BANGKOK 17152, I SUBMITTED OUR

REQUIREMENTS TO FONMIN PHICHAH IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE 142282 ON JUNE 11TH. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS WAS THE MINIMUM U.S. POSITION AND THAT THE THAI WOULD HAVE TO AGREE TO PURCHASE THIS AMMUNITION IN INCREMENTS OVER A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME (I.E. 3 YEARS). NOW I AM ASKED TO ADVANCE A NEW POSITION WHICH IS RADICALLY DIFFERENT AND FAR MORE RESTRICTIVE. I BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THIS PORTION OF THE DRAFT BE WITHDRAWN AND THAT THE EXISTING U.S./THAI DRAFT BE ACCEPTED RATHER THAN THE REDRAFT WHICH HAS BEEN SENT US.

3. I SHOULD ALSO LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAINTENANCE, ACCOUNTING AND SURVEILLANCE WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO NEGOTIATE AS PARA 13 OF THE WASHINGTON DRAFT AFFIRMS THAT THESE ARE USG RESPONSIBILITIES, THUS UNDERCUTTING PARA 6 WHICH REQUIRES THE RTG TO BEAR THE COSTS. I AM AFRAID WE CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS AND AM CONVINCED THAT OUR EXISTING DRAFT ADEQUATELY COVERS THIS PROBLEM.

4. THE AID IS A SERIOUS MATTER WHICH WE AND THE RTG ARE TRYING TO HANDLE RESPONSIBLY BUT I BELIEVE IT IS A MISTAKE TO HAVE THESE AGREEMENTS BECOME TOO ELABORATE AND THAT IT IS ABSURD TO EXPECT THE RTG TO DECIDE WITHIN SIXTY DAYS WHAT THEY WILL BUY OVER THE THREE YEAR PERIOD. OUR EARLIER MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION REALISTICALLY TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THE FACT THAT THE THAI CANNOT TODAY DETERMINE HOW MUCH TO BUY. IF THE SITUATION IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD COOLS DOWN IN THE NEXT MONTHS, THEIR PERCEPTION OF THEIR AMMO NEED WILL BE REDUCED. IF TENSION WITH HANOI REMAINS HIGH, THEY WILL WANT MORE, BUT I FAIL TO SEE WHY WE HAVE TO HAVE THIS DECISION MADE IN SUCH HASTE.  
WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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